tions. He was in Spain during the last year of Weyler's despotism, and was consistent ORIENTAL QUESTION and courageous in opposing Weyler's military policy. Autonomy was beyond the range of his convictions, but he decided to accept the new conditions. The queen regent fitted him out with fresh dignity as a grandee of Spain, and he came home to the task of keeping in check the unruly conservatives, the introusigentes. At the palace the day after Apezteguia's interview with Captain-General Blanco, I was told, in half confidence, that the marquess had undertaken a werk of great promise to the government. He proposed to make the conservative party more autonomist than the autonomists themselves. It was to

make the new regimen its own policy. The conservatives' "primaries" were held, extending through a fortnight. In the various districts the local committees met and selected "vocales" or delegates to the convention. They do not know what a caucus is in Cuba, but the managers understand the importance of controlling the primary from within.

Delegates were selected from all the districts in the island, which are not in the power of the insurgents. Little public agiation was felt, though the Marques of Pinar del Rio and Senor Guzman, president of the Spanish Club of Havana, were exerting themselves against Apezteguia's plans. In some places rivalry was shown in the choice of delegates, but this was not often. At the meetings of the local juntas sometimes speeches were made full of fervor in defense of Spanish sovereignty, yet without definite declarations of policy. In the United States the conservative primaries would have been called tame, except possibly these held in Havana, at which autonomy was given anathema.

#### Platform of Apezteguia

On the Sunday before the convention the platform of President Apezteguia and the junta direction, or central committee, was published. The marques had given up the dea of making the union constitutional sarty more automish than the antonomists hemselves. The worst he hoped for now was to prevent open repudiation of the sysem and to secure a passive acquiescence n experiment. The address exhorted the onservatives if they were not ready to share the glory of the new regimen by acive participation in it, at least not to become responsible for the shipwreck of Spain's nationality which might come from the failure of the policy.

The delegates who began to arrive from the country did not receive the platform favorably. They hinted a purpose of making one of their own. Apezteguin and his lieutenants proved active wire puliers. They sought to use persuasive reasoning and quiet the opposition in advance. Their influence might be compared to that exercised by a number of eminent men who on the eve of a national convention in Chicago in the year 1896 thought they were going to persuade it not to adopt a certain course. The conservative convention met on the evening of the 29th. It had no contesting telegrations are occasion for "pointing with evening of the 20th. It had no contesting lelegations, no occasion for "pointing with price" or "viewing with regret," and no cominations to make. So much of the uncertainty that gives life to similar proceedings in the United States was lacking. The purpose of this "assembly constitutional" was simply to say whether it would accept autonomy. Nobody who wanted to talk was choked off. This may be the reason why the session lasted till sunrise. on why the session lasted till sunrise. 'Discurso.' speech, was called for from the admirers of various delegates, and met with response. Some of them "tenia ia palabra," had the floor several times. Most of the orators were abogados, or lawyers, though some were doctors and jour-nalists. Whatever else may have been lacking in this convention of the conservadom of debate.

The discussion was spiced with personalities which were sometimes blunt, some times vested in irony or sarcasm. The speeches all exhalted patriotism of the most fervent kind and breathed undying levotion to Spain's sovereignty. A hope ful sign or the future was that most of the delegates who advocated moderation and acquiescence in autonomy were young men. But they were so few in numbers.

### Apezteguia Defends Himself

he convention had hardly opened when Marques de Apezteguia was asked for an account of his stewardship as president of the party. He was charged while in Spain with betraying its principles. To some of he charges, as would be said in the states, Apazteguia "disdaimed to reply." But his policy of keeping the party from arraying tself in open opposition to giving autonomy trial he defended manfully.

He was supported by some delegates who

were men of character, but they were clearly in the minority. Several times Apezteguia's partisans proposed a vote of thanks to him, but the "noes" can such force that the question was not put. discussion some hard things were said about the United States and President McKinley's statement that it had the right to intervene in the affairs of Cuba. The electory was fierce, earnest and a grea deal of spontaneous eloquence was spilled.

After several hours it became apparent that Apezteguia could not commit the vention to any of the declarations acquiseing in autonomy that had been formu

Then he and his followers took the wise decision to keep in the front and appear to lead the forces that were pushing them along. Conferences were held with Senor Guzman, who was against some proposi-tions favored by the intransigentes and for others which they supported.

Apeztequia made his last speech at 5 o'clock in the morning. The platform had been contructed with little regard for his wishes. It consisted of resolutions abso lutely rejecting autonomy and committing the party to a "retraimiento" or temporary withdrawal from public affairs. The latter proposition had a provision which latter proposition had a provision which left the junta directura or central comnittee to say how long it should stay drawn within its shell, for the committee was empowered to determine whether it should take part in the elections.

The resolutions were adopted by accla-

mation, and congratulations were cabled to Gen. Weyler in Spain. This action is the best index of the sentiments which dominated the majority of the delegates. Apex tequia and his associates on the centra committee having been sufficiently discipthed and the position of the party madknown, they were unanimously re-elected.

Apeztequia congratulated his friends that narmony had prevailed. The failure to commit the conservatives to autonomy may have no immediate results, but its ultimate influence will be bad. The public apparently took less interest in the outcome of this political convention than in the grand Christmas drawing of the lottery. is a black portent for autonomy, for Cube and for Spain. CHARLES M. PEPPER.

## BUYING CATTLE FOR CUBA.

Agent Pichardo Takes From 500 to 600 a Week.

FORT WORTH, Tex., December 25.-Reently Senor Manuel Pichardo came here from Cuba, stating that he was detailed by he Spanish government to buy cattle for the Spanish army in Cuba. He is now buying 500 or 600 head a week. He said that two of the largest cattle importers of Cuba have agents on the way to north Texas to ouy cattle for Cuba shipment and they will buy 350 to 400 head daily. He complains that he is hindered in his work by the discriminations of the railways.

## JACK RABBIT FEAST FOR POOR.

Three Thousand Big Bunnies for

Their Christmas Dinners. DENVER, Col. December 25 -Parso Thomas Uzzell distributed 3,000 jack rabbits among poor people who applied for them this forenoon. These rabbits were shot in the annual hunt at Lamar, Col. Arrangements are being made to feed 2,000 people at the annual Christmas dinner at the Uzzell Tabernacle next Tuesday.

Sensation in the Durrant Case. SAN FRANCISCO, December 25 .- The longpromised sensation in the Durrant case developed when W. A. Durrant, father of the murderer, presented an affidavit to Superior Judge Sewell, in which he charged Incor Smyth with having knowingly used certain information not presented at the trial of Theodor Durrant in deciding the merits of the case in his (Smyth's) mind.

Attitude of the Administration in Respect to China.

AMERICAN INTERESTS ARE INVOLVED

Assumption That the United States Will Be Aggressive.

SUMMARY OF SITUATION

The course of the administration with respect to the Chinese situation is going to be watched with much interest by Congress. The exact meaning of the decision reached by the President and his cabine al the cabinet session yesterday is not understood. The proposition to carefully watch American interests, but not to participate in any grab of Chinese territory may be variously interpreted. If given the broad interpretation that the situation seems to require, there will be much in the future to occupy the attention of the people of this country. If it is merely the usual perfunctory proposition there will probably be something heard from in Congress on the subject, and, if it amounts to nothing more, it will rouse a new political

This Chinese question puts a problem of foreign relations to the United States in a different light from that in which it has ever been presented before. This country is not interested in the expansion of empires, and the policy adopted by Washington in the beginning and religiously adhered to ever since precludes this government from participating in the partition of China, if that partition is to occur. But there is more in this question as now pre-sented than the acquisition of territory or

supremacy of empire.

As it appears to those best qualified to judge, the United States has an interest in the fate of China and the action of the foreign powers not conceived of in the policy of isolation laid down during the youth of the republic.

It is held by some of the broadest visione.

men in Congress that the policy of indif-ference toward the international politics of European and Asiatic powers does not extend to our commercial relations with those powers nor to the action of those powers which affect those relations. Such an interpretation of that policy as

would ignore an injury to our commercial development, it is held, would place restrictions upon us which would ultimately be

#### Duty of This Government.

It is the opinion of careful students of the situation that the duty of this government is to participate to the extent of securing in perpetuity such commercial rights and privileges in the orient as will admit of the indefinite development of our commerce on the Pacific. It may be a matter of indif-ference to the United States what territorial dominion is acquired in China by Germany, Russia, England or Japan, provided their extension of empire does not carry with it the power to place upon our trade—or prospective trade—with the orient such a restriction as they may see fit. In other words, it is held to be our duty to claim certain commercial privileges independent of the caprice of contending nations, as our share of the general division of Spain, and that we should not consent to

the carrying out of any policy as to China which deprives us of that. This view of the situation is one that looks into the future. In the life of a na-tion a few generations count for little. If this republican form of government is to survive, there must be no restriction upon its development which does not rest as well upon other forms of government. A healthy development for a country like this does not involve, necessarily, terri-torial expansion. It is naturally confined to internal progress and advancement in production, in manufacturing and the arts. end the opening up of markets to be reached with our commerce

The protective policy of the administra-tion and the natural resources of this coun-try may be expected to lead to the highest internal development, and the home mar ket will naturally expand. A foreign market is necessary, however, to render avail-able the profits of this capacity for pro-duction. In Germany, France, England, and in all countries outside the orient, our policy of protection to American industries is met by retaliation and competition. There is a well defined limit to the expansion of our trade in that direction. The orient alone is open, or may be opened, and there the trade is undeveloped and subject to al-

#### most unlimited development in the future. Future Possibilities.

If dominant rival powers are to dictate the tariff laws and sign commercial treatles for China, to grant or take away at their will commercial privileges we may seek or now enjoy, it is foreseen that a great wall will gradually be constructed around the United States, and we will sink to a low place among nations, being the hewers of wood and the drawers of water, with a prospect of, in the course of time finding ourselves in the condition China now is.

Those who see the situation in this light confess that they may be looking a hun-dred years or more ahead, but the fruits of a policy of government are slow of development, one generation planting for generations remote.

It is not felt that this government need

assume an attitude of hostility toward any power engaged in the scramble for China, but we should not let foreign governments think us indifferent.

The comments of the foreign press show that it is realized abroad that our interests are seriously involved, and the disposition a more aggressive policy than is at all like ly. This, it is thought, renders it easier to make a conservative but firm policy more effective.

It is expected that soon after Congress meets the administration will receive assurances of being sustained in any steps necessary to protect American interests.

## STRUGGLE IN THE EAST.

United States Will Take No Part in

Scramble for Territory. At the cabinet meeting yesterday affairs in the orient were seriously discussed, and it was decided that this government will keep "hands off" in the struggle between the powers of Europe for territorial supremacy in China. It was deemed to be incumbent upon the United States to confine its operations in the celestial empire to the protection of its commercial and other interests in that quarter. Jealous watch will be kept over our manifold interests in China, however, and every proper effort made for their complete protection in all

emergencies.

Not only will the commercial interests be safeguarded from interference in the past and prospective seizures of territory by foreign powers, but measures will also be taken to protect the lives and property of Americans in China, in the not alto-gether improbable event of an uprising on the part of the natives against foreigners. So far as known, Great Britain has never nade any formal overtures with officials of this government for a concert of action in the case of China, and in view of the action of the cabinet at yesterday's session, it is not at all likely that she will take any steps in that direction.

Great Britain and the United States will

Great Fritain and the United States will stand on the same footing in this matter as the United States and any one of the other powers concerned—Germany, Russia or France. As one of the members of the cabinet has expressed it, the policy of the United States "is to keep a watchful eye upon the situation as it develops, in order to see that full protection may be give to upon the situation as it develops, in order to see that full protection may be given to the interests of the United States in the orient, as guaranteed by our treaties with China and the other countries involved."

To this end arrangements have been made to strengthen our naval forces in Chinese waters, and to distribute the vestels where they will be the tode the chinese waters, and to distribute the vessels where they will be able to do the most good. The cruiser Raleigh was detached from the Mediterranean fleet for that purpose, and is now well on her way to China. The gunboat Helena recently left New York, having the same destination, and the gunboats Concord and Marietta are fitting out at San Francisco for duty on the Chi-

### BONA-FIDE CIRCULATION.

A reference to the statement below will show that the circulation

sworn to is a bone fide one. It is easily possible for a newspaper with an elastic conscience to swell its legitimate circulation enormously, in order to deceive advertisers, by sending out thousands of papers to newsstands, which are returnable, and which are in fact returned, but nevertheless are included in what purports to be an honest statement of circulation.

Intelligent advertisers, however, judge by results, and bogus circulations don't give them The family circulation of The Star

is many thousands in excess of any other Washington paper.

Circulation of The "Evening Star." SATURDAY, December 18, 1897...... 35,441 MONDAY, December 20, 1897......29,017 TUESDAY, December 21, 1897.....30,091 WEDNESDAY, December 22, 1897......29,393 THURSDAY, December 23, 1897..... 29,167 FRIDAY, December 24, 1897......28.847 Total......181,956 Daily average...... 30,326

I solemnly swear that the above statement repesents only the number of copies of THE EVEN-ING STAR circulated during the six secular days ending Friday, December 24, 1897—that is, the number of copies actually sold, delivered, furnished or mailed, for valuable consideration, to bona fide purchasers or subscribers, and that none of the copies so counted are returnable to or remain in the office unsold.

Cashier Evening Star Newspaper Co. Subscribed and sworn to before me this twenty-fifth day of December, A. D. 1897. GRENVILLE A. WHITAKER, Notary Public, D. C.

J. WHIT. HERRON.

nese station. It is expected that they will both be ready to sail in a few weeks.

Commodore Dewey, recently relieved from duty in this city as president of the naval inspection board, has been placed in command of the naval forces of the United States in Chinese waters, as the relief of Admiral McNair, whose time is up. Com-Admiral McNair, whose time is up. Com-modore Dewey sailed from San Francisco about two weeks ago, and if he has not already done so, will in a few days fly his flag from the armored cruiser Olympia, which is the flagship of the fleet and one of the most powerful vessels on the sta-

### QUIET AT THE WHITE HOUSE

President's Recent Bereavement Precluded Any Public Function.

Similar Air of Rest Pervaded All the Departments - Where the Secretaries Dined.

Christmas day at the White House was the most quiet and peaceful that the mansion has ever known since the national capital was reared on the banks of the Potomac. Through the whole of the perfect midwinter day the doors scarcely swung on their hinges, save for the exit and entrance of the President and Mrs. McKinley, who early in the forenoon went for a short drive about the city.

Owing to the recent bereavement of the Presidert, all official functions were suspended, and the White House was deserted by all, save a very few of the house officials. The only guests were Miss Duncan and Miss Barber, who have been at the executive mansion for some days, and these shared with the President and Mrs. Mc-Kinley the quiet and homelike Christmas dinner.

## Policeman in Lonely Authority.

Even Secretary Porter and the clerks had deserted the office, and the big policeman in uniform at the door had things entirely to himself, save for the company of half a dozen English sparrows skirmishing in the sunshine beneath the portio, and a couple of "plain-clothes" policemen, who industriously held down easy chairs in the de-serted corridors. The official members of household were not forgotten, however for the President and Mrs. McKinley presented to each of the married men among them a plump Christmas turkey, while all the bachelors of the force had a neat little the bachelors of the force had a neat little scarf pin apiece by which to remember the day.
Several Christmas tokens arrived for the

President, the most conspicuous among them being a big basket of pink roses, fragrant orchids and lities of the valley.

## In the Departments.

The departments were as thoroughly deserted as was the White House. Usually even on a holiday a few of the secretaries will be found at their desks in the great government buildings, for a holiday is a good time for quiet and uninterrupted work. But this Christmas found not a ringle cabinet officer at his post save Attorney General McKenna, who, after early church, walked over to the Department of Justice and spent some time at his desk. The Vice President and Mrs. Hobart spent Christmas day at their home in Paterson, N. J.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Sherman spent the day quietly at their beautiful home on K street, surrounded by the members of their household. Secretary and Mrs. Gage, Secretary and Mrs. Alger and Secretary and Mrs. Long observed the day by a reunion of the members of their respective families at their

residences in this city.
Secretary Alger, who has been ill for several days with a bad cold, was able to join his family at the Christmas dinner. The Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. Wilson had the pleasure of the company of their sons at dinner today at their

on S street. The Postmaster General and Mrs. Gary spent the day in Baltimore and entertained a large party of friends at dinner. Attorney General and Mrs. McKenna The Attorney General and Mrs. McKenna have their three daughters and their son, Lieut. Frank McKenna with them for the holidays. The Attorney General spent a part of the day at his office in the Department of Justice.
Secretary and Mrs. Bliss passed Christmas day at their home in New York and had several friends to dinner. partment of Justice

## BISHOP WARREN'S MISSION.

Will Take Charge of Methodist Missionary Work in Chile. DENVER, Col., December 25.—Bishop Warren of the M. E. Church, who is to make a missionary tour of several South American countries, has just received final instructions from New York city concerning the work, which he is to do. Besides holding conferences he will take format possession of \$200,000 worth of property, which has just been donated to his church. Bishop Warren will leave Denver January 14, 1898. Mrs. Warren and Miss Ileff will accompany him. The party will go from Denver to New York city, there will take the steaments. take the steamship Advance of the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company, going by it to Colon, on the Isthmus of Panama. At Panama they will embark for Valparaiso on the steamship Imperial of the Chile Steam Navigation Company.

Secretary Alger's Cold Better. Secretary Alger has been confined to his some for the past week with a severe cold. but had recovered sufficiently today to enjoy Christmas festivities with his family. He expects to resume his official duties at the department next Monday.

# SONG AND PRAYER

The Glorious Christmas Day Celebrated in the Churches.

# THE SERVICES HELD TODAY

Midnight Gatherings and Sunrise, Peals of Bells.

WHERE THEY WERE HELD

Solemn high mass was celebrated with the customary magnificent and appropriate ceremonies at a number of the Catholic churches of the city. Long before the starlight had begun to pale or the sign of the morning sun had begun to appear the church bells had begun to ring. With but a few hours' sleep, and with the pros pect of a glad though tiring day of excitement before them, the faithful responded The streets before 5 o'clock, the hour for the beginning of the church services, were filled with young and old. The air was most frosty, but the churchgoers did not hesitate to show by deed that they were glad that the Prince of Peace had been born this day nearly 1,900 years ago. The matter of suffering a little trifle in the way of leaving warm beds and rising at such an early hour was merely a trifle. While the bells rang out the tidings of great joy to all men they trooped up the steps of the sacred edifices with reverent head and en-tered the houses which had been consecrated to His use and His presence. Christ-mas greetings were given and exchanged, but it was done quietly and with no show of worldiness. Up the aisles, with bowed head and lowly mien they walked, as befitting so solemn an occasion. In some cases eyes were wet with the memories of other Christmas days, some happy, perhaps, some troubulous. While the organ inside softly pealed in the solemn ceremonials the wind outside breathed a requiem for the repose of old intolerance, sin and hatred Together both merged into a glad anthem whose meaning was clear. "Unto Us a Child is Born, Unto Us a King is Given." Irside the high altars were ablaze with lights, the censers going to and fro, in the space reserved for the celebrant and his sistants. Around the altars were palms and other greens, fitly commemorating the day. The scenes were most impressive in all the churches. If for no purpose of devotion, simply from a spectacular standpoint, the early morning rising world have been well repaid by this. But it is safe to assert that those who gratified their senses at the expense of their souls in this manner were few and far between. The attitudes of devotion, which appeared sincefere, were assumed by all who witnessed. cere, were assumed by all who witnessed the ceremonials in honor of the nativity

### Early Masses

of the Savior.

Early high mass was celebrated at the fellowing churches: St. Patrick's, St. Jeseph's, St. Mary's, St. Aloysius, St. Peter's, St. Paul S. St. Dominic's, St. Teresa's, Anacostia, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Augustine's, St. Stephen's, Holy Trinity: A The congregation at St. Patrick's Church,

10th and Gastreets northwest, filled the church to overflowing. The musical program was a remarkably fine one, prepared for the occasion. Signor Mariano Maina directed a selected orchestra of fourteen instruments at the 5 o'clock mass. The sing-ing was such as to hold the large audience with the closest attention, and the orchestral music was a fitting accompaniment. Rev. Father Goyd was celebrant of the mass, Rev. Father Stafford was deacon and Rev. Father McGee subdeacon. Over the altar, looking like a brilliant jewel setting for the glowing interior of the church itself, was a handsome five-pointed star made of dazzling lights. Every eye was turned to this as the orbs of the shepherds were directed to the star which shone over

It was a cosmopolitan assemblag tends over the lowly as well as the rich. There were ladies attired in seal skins, yearing costly jewels. There were others whose poverty was apparent from their ap-arel. They met on the same footing—in some cases they occupied the same pews. There was no class distinction there the congregation were policemen, in uni-form, the gray of the letter carrier was also evident. All occupations were repre-sented. There were whites and blacks. All listened with the utmost attention. It was one of the nost devotional congregations probably that ever gathered together. It seemed trained as one. When the solemn intonations of the celebrant would reach the different passages in the services every knee would be bent, every head bowed.

Again the congregation would rise on its feet, while the organ pealed forth exult-ingly the tidings of great joy to all men. The Sermon.

Father Gloyd did not preach a sermon that task being left to Father Stafford, who delivered an eloquent discourse, later in the day. The rector, however, made some remarks, breathing a christmas spirit throughout. While the day was one of joy for all persons, he said, it was one especially joyful to Catholics, for they were specially blessed. They were better fitted to celebrate the occasion, than those of any other denomination, he declared. The tidings which the angels brought to the shepherds was the text of his dis-ccurse. He defined the two kinds of joy which characterize Christmas day, and adjured his hearers to let the spiritual kind overtop the worldly. It was good for people to enjoy themselves on this oc-casion, he stated, by giving and receiving presents, and in the various other ways,

but the true reason why the time is cele-brated should not be forgotten. In con-clusion, he asked for contributions from veryone, as liberal as could be spared. The number of persons who remained a the communion service was noticeably large. Throughout the musical service, the "Adeste Fidelis" strain was woven, as a thread of gold, in a pattern of silver. When the mass was finished, the immense congregation passed quickly out, each to his or her home with sweeters. each to his or her home, with greetings to friends and relatives. The east had just begun to grow rosy, with the advent of the Christmas day, when the worshipers passed along the thoroughfares and dis-

#### appeared in their houses. St. Matthew's.

At St. Matthew's Church this morning s large congregation participated in the impressive ceremony of rolemn high mass. Rev. Thomas Lee was the celebrant. There were no expensive decorations in the church. A few garlands of evergreens about the altar and an expensive wreath of holly, made more, effective by the large holly, made more, effective by the large bow of red with which it was tied to the pulpit, covered it all. The choir was augmented by a string orchestra, and rendered the program printed yesterday in The Star. The soloists were Mrs. Pennybaker, Mrs. Goddard, Misses Carrie Cotterill, Blanche Wood, Mamie Magee, Mrs. Hersey, Misses Davis, Tyler and Lackey; Messra. Golden, Fitzgerald, Geodchild and Meem. Sopranos, Mrs. Pennybaker, Mrs. Goddard, Misses Carrie Cotterill, Blanche Wood, Mamie Magee, Mrs. Hersey, Mrs. Wilmarth, Kath-Carrie Cotterill, Blanche Wood, Mamle Magee, Mrs. Hersey, Mrs. Wilmarth, Kathleen Cooney, Hasbel Sinclair, Margaret and Catharine Aylmer, Lucy Long and Mrs. Sohon. Altos, Misses Elise Davis, Elizabeth Tyler, Kattsellackey, Annie Flemling and Miss Avery. Tenors, Messrs. J. H. Golden, Thomas Fitzgerald, Ed. Schwarze, Michael Peters and Frederick White. Bassos, Messrs. Charles Goodchild, W. Silas Sheetz, Dr. E. J. Stitt, Arthur Giles, Paul Cromelein, Meem and Gates. Organist, Miss Jennie Glennan. Miss Jennie Glennan. St. Aloyslus. At St. Aloysius Church the 11 o'clock

service was especially grand in all its appointments. The music was magnificent, Mrs. Kitty Thompson-Berry sustaining the leading soprano parts with splendid effect. The officers of the mass were Very Rev. Mgr. Sbarretti, celebrant; Rev. P. J. O'Con-nell, S. J., deacon; Mr. Wm. O. Gorman, S. J., subdeacon; Mr. James Mullen, S. J., master of ceremoples.

The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Pardo, who chose his text from St. Luke, 2d chapter: "This day is born to you in the city of David a Savior who is Christ, the Lord."

of Christmas as used by the Catholic Church, saying the word Christmas was really no more than Christ's mass.

The three masses stood for three truths, the divinity of Christ, the humanity of Christ and Christ's personal relations with each individual. These truths are necessary to teach the great learner of Christman each individual. These truths are necessary to teach the great lesson of Christmas. The only solution of the religious question, he said, is to be found in a belief in the divinity of Christ and His teachings. He said that any solution of the social questions which are troubling the world today will be secured only when statesmen "go to Bethlehem" and learn the lesson of the man God, the lesson of charity, of forebearance and even of poverty. Other Churches.

At St. Patrick's Church, Rev. John Gloyd, pastor, high mass was celebrated at 5 and 11 o'clock, the edifice being crowded during both services. "O Holy Night" was sung by Mr. William D. McFarland as

First high mass at St. Joseph Church was sung at 5 o'clock and the second at 10:30 a.m., the musical program being elab-

orate and splendidly executed.

Masses were also celebrated at St.

Mary's Church on 5th street between G and H streets. During the second solemn high mass, celebrated at 10 o'clock, the children of the parochial school sang Ger-man Christmas carols.

Masses were also celebrated at St. Peter's

Church, corner 2d and C streets southeast, and St. Paul's Catholic Church, corner 15th and V streets. At St. Paul's the celebrant was Rev. Dr. Kerby of the Catholic University, and the music was especially artistic.

St. Dominic's Church in South Washingon was crowded to overflowing at both of he services held there today. There were also services at St. Teresa's Church, Anacostia; the Immaculate Conception Church, corner Sth and N streets northwest; St. Augustine 15th street northwest. At St. Augustine's Church solemn pontifical mass was celeorated by Right Rev. Bishop Curtis at 11

At the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus, corner of 11th and K streets north-east, Rev. Thomas J. Kervick, the pastor, celebrated high mass. The music accompanying the service was exceptionally fine The services at St. Stephen's Church and at Holy Trinity Church, Georgetown, were also very largely attended.

#### EPISCOPAL SERVICES.

Beautiful and Elaborate Exercise Were Held Today. The Episcopal churches of the city celeorated Christmas day with beautiful and

elaborate services. In many of the churches three services were held during the day, and in all of them special attention was paid to the musical and choral features of St. John's Church was beautifully deco-

rated with seasonable greens, and the altar embellished with flowers. The church was crowded at the 11 o'clock service, but seats were found for all who came. An elaborate inusical program had been arranged, and was executed by the choristers and the erganists. The program was as follows: Processional, hymn 49, Adeste Fidelis, Reading; Venite, in G. Garrett; Gloria Patri, in D. Tours; Te Deum, in A. Westbury: Jubilate Deo, in B flat, C. Villiers Stansford; holy communion; introit anthem, Behold! I Bring You Good Tidings, Cross; Kyrie, plain song, Warren; Gloria Tibl, plain song, Gounod; hymn 60, Smart; offertory anthem, Sing, O Heavens, A. R. Goul; ascription, Praise God From Whom; Sanctus, in A. Camilge: hymn 224; Cleris in Francisco A, Camidge; hymn 224; Gloria in Excelsis, in C, Atkinson; Nunc Dimittis, in A flat, Wood; recessional hymn 51. Mendelssohn. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr.
Mickay-Smith, the rector. His topic was
the Infant Savior as typical of the humbleness of the Christian religion. It was wonderful that a little babe, the personification of all that was gentle and helices tion of all that was gentle and helples tion of all that was gentle and helpless, should come to dominate the world. Christ never raised a finger to enforce His will, yet the dominant races of the world have followed Him. Rome, the mistress of the world, was finally led captive by him. Italy, the land of learning; Germany, the home of science, followed Him. There was nothing in His character of the flavor of aggression, and yet the most enterprising aggression, and yet the most enterprising race, the Anglo-Saxon race, acknowledged

Him as its Lord. Benighted races, in selecting their re-Benighted races, in selecting their religion, choose a god who is fearful, powerful or revengeful. They demand outward and visible signs and make for themselves idois of hideous design. The intelligent race demands to seek for the hidden and obscure, and finds to difficulty in accepting a little child as the sign of God's power.

Therefore it because the hidden and obscure, and finds to difficulty in accepting a little child as the sign of God's power. Therefore it happens that if one could be in India today he would witness two widely different sights upon the same spot. He would see the Hadoo worshiping an idol of horrid mien, some fearful, revengeful or evil spirit. A little distance away a group of English officers, some of them ice regents over 30,000,000 of people be kneeling in adoration over the cradle of

an infant.
Dr. Mackay-Smith said it was in the ranks of the humble people that the most loving worship of the Christ child is found. To these people it is Christ the consoler Borne down by weight of trouble, poverty and woe, they cast themselves upon Savior. He is their friend and comforter and their recourse.

## Ascension Church.

The holy communion was celebrated at 7:30 o'clock this morning at the Church of the Ascension, 12th street and Massachusetts avenue. The Chapter of Praise sang at the service, which was well attended despite the early hour. At the conclusion of the service which began at 11 o'clock there was a second celebration of the holy ommunion Both services were conducted by Rev

John H. Elliott. At an early morning service the assistant rector, Rev. Thomas W Cooke, was present, but became ill was unable to be present at 11 o'clock. His place was taken by Rev. Mr. Bourne. The feature of the services was the mu-sical program, rendered by the vested choir of thirty-nine men and boys. Mr. Francis Edward Camp, the organist and choirmas-ter, was in charge of this feature, and the

congregation has not heard in many days more perfect program.

Dr. Elliott announced that the offering would be for the Christmas festivals of the Sunday schools of the church. The con-

Sunday schools of the church. The contributions were large.

Dr. Elliott preached from the 14th and 15th verses of the 14th chapter of Matthew. The sermon was brief, but dealt appropriately with the day. He spoke of the advent of Christ to the world and of His benedictions. He then narrated the work of Christ in Legislary the best in the world. of Christ in Jerusalem—the healing of the sick, blind, weary and weak; the comforts of all kinds showered upon the afflicted. The most glorious gift of this Christmas day, he said, is that Christ is still the Healer and Comforter.

Midnight Service. A beautiful and impressive midnight serv ice was held last night at St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Rev. William R. Turner, rector, 22d street near F northwest,

A large congregation was present. The church presented a handsome appear ance. Above the altar, which was brilliant were placed trailing vines, holly and flow-ers, while the walls were festioned with cedar and decorated with wreaths and crosses made of holly or cedar.

The exercises began at 11:15 o'clock, a which time the vested choir began sing ing the processional. At first the voices seemed as though a long way off, but pres-rely the members of the choir, followed by the rector, entered and took their places in the chancel. Prayer was offered by Mr. Turner, and

Prayer was offered by Mr. Turner, and the responses in the litany were recited in a beautiful manner by the choir. The con-gregation sang "All My Heart Tonight Re-jolces," after which Mr. Robert Keeling sang a baritone solo. Other hymns sung by the congregation were "Oh, Come, All Ye Pcople," and "Hark, the Herald Angels

A short but elequent sermon was delivered by Mr. Turner from the words of the prophet Esaias, "For unto us a Son is born." Mr. Turner spoke of how the prophet foretold the coming of Christ 600 years before the event occurred, and in clusion wished all present a joyou The congregation at the morning's serv ices was large. The exercises were

propriate. Other Churches. Christmas services at St. Stephen's Church, 14th street and Columbia Heights. egan at 7 a.m. with holy communion. At

the 11 o'clock service the vested choir, un der the direction of Prof. Nicholls, executed a musical program. A large congregation was present to listen to the sermon by the rector.

At the Chapel of St. Matthew, M and Half streets southeast, the length of the musical program required the services to row morning, and Tuesday evening at 7:30 gregation was present to listen to the ser-

begin at 10:30 o'clock. The sermon was by the pastor, Rev. J. M. E. McKee. The service of music was under the direction of Mr. Henry Tavender, the precentor, with Miss Rose Kuhn, Miss Mabel Rosweil and Miss Mary Birch, organists.

At Emmanuel Church, Anacostia, the principal service of the day was held at 11 o'clock. The choristers executed a pleasing program of music under the direction of Dr. Hollingsworth and Mrs. E. G. Pyles, organist. Rev. W. G. Davenport, the pastor, preached the sermon.

At Christ Church the 11 o'clock service was marked by a notable musical program by the members of the choir, Miss Taylor, Miss Kahlert, Mr. James S. Smith and Mr. R. J. Lowry, with Mr. J. F. Richards, organist. Rev. Arthur St. Johns, the rector, preached the sermon.

preached the sermon. were two services at Epiphany Church, holy communion at 8 a.m. and the full morning service, sermon and holy communion at 11 a.m. At this service a mesical festival was a notable feature. choir, under the direction of Mr. H. Clough-Leighter, was assisted by a chorus of thirty mixed voices. The church was crowded, and the sermon was presented by the rec-

Christ Church, Georgetown, held a musi-Christ Church, Georgetown, held a musical service at 11 o'clock, which was executed by the choristers, under the direction of Mr. James Watson, choir master, and Miss Afleen Bell, organist, assisted by Mrs. John H. Roche, soprano soloist, and Mrs. Wilson Young and the Misses Gilbert, Mix, Allen. Sawyer and Ratcliffe.

Holy communion was held at 6 o'clock this morning at St. Luke's Church, 15th and Madison streets northwest, and was repeated at the 11 o'clock service, with a choral celebration. Rev. Owen M. Waller.

choral celebration, Rev. Owen M. Waller, the rector, preached the sermon at the 11

'clock service. At the Church of Our Savior, Brookland, the services were well attended. The special program of music was appropriate and entertaining. The services were conducted by the rector, Rev. J. T. Crowe.

The services at the Pinckney Memorial Church Hyestraville because with magning.

The services at the Pinckney Memorial Church, Hyattsville, began with morning prayer, followed by holy communion at 11 o'clock. The male vested choir, under the directilen of Mrs. S. K. Yeighter, rendered the program published in yesterday's Star. The singing was effective and pleasant. Rev. J. B. Perry, rector of St. Andrew's Church, 14th and Corcoran streets, conducted services at the church at 11 clock.

ducted services at that church at 11 o'clock

The music was unusually well rendered. The sermon of the rector was in keeping with the day The vested choir of Grace Church, corner of 9th and D streets southwest, gave apprepriate selections under the direction of Mr. E. H. Daniel. Rev. Thomas O. Tongre, the rector, conducted the services. Trinity Church, corner of 3d and C streets rcrthwest, was well filled when Rev. Alex-ander M. Rich began the services. The mu-

sical program was an exceptionally fine

At St. Mary's Chapel, 23d street between G and H northwest, the early morning service was held at 7:30 o'clock. At 10 o'clock there was a celebration of holy communion and an address by Rev. O. L. Mitchel, vicar. Mr. Samuel E. Payten was the lay reader. The choir consisted of Miss Cecil Frances McKee, organist; sopranos, Charles Turner, Theodore Turner, Reitrick Dishman, Fred Crusoe, James Mahony, Jas. Mack, Moria Saunders, James Chase; altos, Edward Dorsey, Harry Saunders, James Kidrick; tenors, William H. Goodrich, Edw. Morton, Robert Mattingly, Samuel Mattingly, Leon Turner; tasses, James Gray, Ralph Rijgeley, Hiram Gray, Howard Johnson. Christmas services at St. James' Church 8th street near Massachusetts avenue northeast, began last night at 7:30 o'clock

with vespers. This morning at 11 o'clock the regular services were held and the sermon was preached by the rector.

St. John's Church, Georgetown, over which the Rev. C. E. Buck presides as rec-tor, celebrated the day at the 11 o'clock service with music and a sermon. The choir consisted of the following: Sopranos— Frank Smoot, Alden Smoot, R. Tucker, Mitchell, Orton, Burrows, Robinson, Ma-Mitchell, Orton, Burrows, Robinson, Magruder, Barbarin, Davis, Middleton, Buck, Houser, Middleton, Powell, Garrett, Dugan, Kidwell, Grover, Roach, Roach, Holzberg, Altos—Miss Dodson, Miss Ross, Miss Kearney, Basses—R. L. Cox, R. Lucker, Randall, Bell, Weaver. Tenors—W. C. Lucker, Minnick, Draper, Donohue, Cropley. Organist, W. E. Middleton; assistant organist, C. L. Cropley.

The Church of the Advent, Le Droit Park, held service at 7:30 a.m., followed at 9:30 by a Sunday school carol service, and at 11 by full morning prayer and holy communion. The Rev. E. M. Mott preached the sermon.

reached the sermon.

There was holy communion at 7:30 o'clock and again at 11 o'clock at the Church of the Incarnation, N and 12th streets north west. Rev. Wm. T. Snyder, the rector conducted the morning prayer services and preached an appropriate sermon. The large and splendidly trained choir rendered a program in keeping with the services and The day's services at St. Thomas' Church,

corner of 18th and Madison streets, began with the holy communion at 8 o'clock. 11 o'clock there was morning prayer and oly communion again, with a sermon by the rector, Rev. John Aspinwall. The rec tor and his assistants, Rev. Messrs. Falls and Ames, conducted both services, which were attended by large congregations. The musical program had been carefully prepared, and was, of course, of a festival na-

The services at St. Paul's Church, 23d street near Washington circle, were in keeping with the day. Rev. Alfred Harding, the rector, and Rev. Phillip M. Prescott, assistant rector, conducted holy com-munion at 7:30 and 9 a.m. At 11 a.m. there was morning prayer and nigh celebration with a sermon by the rector. The choir was composed of thirty voices, and was accompanied by organ and orchestra. Rev. Richard Lewis Howell, rector of St. Margaret's Church, Connecticut avenue, conducted the morning exercises at his

### The sermon told of the day and the duties of Christians.

church. Mrs. Margaret B. Harvey presided at the organ and the choir was led by R. I.

LUTHERAN CHURCHES. Services This Morning and Some To

The great Christian holiday was observed oday in about all of the Lutheran churches, although in some of them the principal Christmas services will be held tomorrow. In those churches in which 11 o'clock services were omitted today, services were held in most instances at 7 o'clock this morning. These early morning exercises consisted for the greater part of readings from the Scriptures and the singing of Christmas carols. Ail of the churches were taste fully decorated with plants, flowers and evergreens, and as a rule the services were well attended. The music rendered was a nost attractive feature of the exercises. At St. Paul's English Lutheran Church 11th and H streets, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Domer, preached to a large congregation. His text was taken from Matthew li:8, "And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the Young Child, and when ye have found Him, bring me word again, that I may come and wor-ship Him also." Dr. Domer pointed out that Christmas is a festival for the home, and remarked that there are two great forces at work in the world—one for the de-struction and the other for the salvation of humanity. The Child of Bethlehem, he said, stands for the great saving force of the world, and the Christmas idea touches, first of all, the home, and especially the children of the home. Dr. Domer said he is not one of those who would rob children of the idea of or belief in Santa Claus, believing it to be unnecessary, particularly when it is remembered that in that dearly beloved mythical person is represented the icea of giving, which in turn represents the great gift of Christ to the world and the benedictions of Christ to the world.

penedictions of Christ to the world.

The Sunday school anniversary will be celebrated at this church tomorrow evening at 7:30, when exercises tending to give the children an object lesson in the matter of the Christmas festival will take place. At today's services an excellent program of music was rendered in fine style by in music was rendered in fine style by an A Christmas festival service was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 320 4½ street southwest, at 11 o'clock this morning, when the pastor, Rev. George Brodthage, preached in German on "The Wise Men Out of the East." The choir rendered an

enjoyable musical program. Tomorrow morning at 11 the pastor will preach in German on "The Innocent Children of Beth-

lel.em," and tomorrow evening at 7:30 the Sunday school will hold interesting ex-Sunday school will hold the sunday school will be supported by the supported the children's Christmas festival will be

Services were held this morning clock at the Lather Memorial hurch, the Rev. J. G. Butler, pastor, readng from the prophecies and gospel of Christ. Christmas carols were also sung. The chief Christmas services will be held at 11 tomorrow morning, when Dr. Butler will preach from Matthew, 1, 23: They shall call His name Immanuel, which is, beshall call His name Immanuel, which is, being interpreted, God with us." Dr. Butier will speak of the three incarnations: First, God incarnate in Christ; God incarnate in the heart of the believer, and, third, God dwelling among men in the coming kingdom of rightcousness and peace, which is to fill the whole earth.

The music terms.

The music tomorrow morning will be of a special character, under the direction of Mr. John H. Seiffert, who has charge of the chorus choir, with Miss Ella Butler as organist. In the evening, at 7:30, the Sunday school exercises will be held, consisting of the singing of carols and recitations, in charge of Miss Mary Butler of the primary class and Superintendent W. H. Finckel. Thursday evening there will be pound party for the poor, and also a dis-

a pound party for the poor, and also a distribution of gifts.

Morning services of the same character were held at the Keller Memorial Lutheran Church today, the Christmas services to be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, when the pastor, Rev. C. H. Butler, will preach, and a fine musical program will be rendered. At 7 o'clock tomorrow evening the Sunday school exercises will be held, and Wednesday evening a Christmas celebration will take place, when there will ration will take place, when there will

also be a donation party for the poor.

The Christmas services will be held at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Rev. Dr. W. E. Parsons, pastor, tomorrow morning and evening, when an unusually attractive musical program will be ren dered by an enlarged choir and overture.

#### THEY REJOICED.

A special Christmas service was held to

Christmas Services at Covenant and Swedenborgian Churches.

day at 11 o'clock at the Church of the Covenant, and was attended by a congregation of good size. The usual form of service was carried out with perhaps a more extended musical program than usual Mrs. Hattie Mead Smith sang the wellknown aria, Rejoice greatly from the Messiah and night of nights by Vande Water. At the offertory Mr. F. B. Reeside, the precentor of the church, sang Gunod's Noel. The selections for the organ prelude and postlude were suggestive of the season and were from the Messiah. A brief sermon was delivered by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Hamlin, and the entire service was within an

hour's time.

The theme of the sermon was the fullness of the time, reference being made to the fitness of the time for the coming of Christ as indicated by the corruption in the mor-als and customs of the Roman people, who were at that time the rulers of the world. The preacher also spoke of the toleration with which the new religion was received and that the civil authorities did not interfere with its propagation as long as it did not threaten the stability of the govern-ment. He said that the day of Christ's birth was not specially observed in church-es of the denomination or order to which the Church of the Covenant belongs, was supposed gratitude for the gift of Christ was something for daily remem brance. The preacher thought that if any inspiration came from participating in the church observance of such a festival as Christmas that it was proper for all Chris-tians to avail themselves of the opportu-

The offering was for the poor at Peck Memorial Chapel, the mission connected with the church.

Swedenborgian Church. The services at 11 o'clock today at the New Church (Swedenborgian), 16th and Corcoran streets, were largely musical, the selections rendered by the choir being appropriate to the day. The choir was un-der the direction of Miss Maud A. Sewall, who is the organist and director. Among the selections rendered were the chant, of Zion That Bringest; Mozart's Blessed is He, which was sung by the quartet, and at the offertory, O Thou That Tellest Good T.dings, from the "Messiah." Holy com-

munion was observed. The pastor of the church, Rev. Frank Sewall, officiated. Yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock the members of the Sunday school of church enjoyed a Christmas festival. carols were sung, and there was a Christ mas story and recitations. A handsomely decorated tree was a feature that espe cially delighted the children.

## HAS GONE TO SEA.

News Received of the Salling of the

Montgomery. The Secretary of the Navy received a telegram this morning from the commandant of the navy yard, Pensacola, Fla., which may or may not be significant. It simply said that the cruiser Montgomery had gone to sea and was perfectly silent as to her mission or destination. Consequently it is not known whether she is in actual pursuit of a suspected fillbustering expedition or whether she is merely off on an ordinary cruise along the coast in com-pliance with general instructions from the department to assist in the enforcement of the neutrality laws. The impression pre-vails, however, that her movements are based on information regarding one of the many expeditions said to be fitting out along the Florida coast for immediate de-

# parture for Cuba.

LUETGERT'S NEW DEFENSE. Will Try to Show His Wife Wandered Away Insane.

CHICAGO December 25.-The Attorneys for Adolph L. Luetgert have received a report from the superintendent of the insane asylum at Pueblo, Col., on the mental condition of Herman Bicknese, the brother of Louisa Luetgert, who disappeared twenty years ago, and was recently discovered locked up in the Colorado State Insane Asylum. The defense will endeavor to put this document in evidence, and if the court refuses to admit it the superintendent of the asylum himself will be

brought here to testify. According to the superintendent's report, the mental aberration of Mrs. Luetgert's brother was brought on by excessive drink ing rather than as an inherited trait, although, in the opinion of the superintendent, a family tendency to insanity might have been aided by the liquor habit. Bicknese disappeared from Chicago twenty years ago after his wife had ap-plied for and secured a divorce on ac-count of his bibulous habits. It was because of the latter, it is said, that no effort was made to trace him by the rest of the family. It was known he had gone west, and nothing was heard of him till the de-fense received word from the Colorado asylum that Bicknese had been there at

#### different times for ten years SLAP AT EASTERN COTTON MILLS.

Denver Factory Secures Contracts in

DENVER, Col., December 25 .- The Overland cotton mills of this city have carried the war "into the enemy's country" with a vengeance by securing contracts which will place their product in Boston, Mass. They have also secured, in close competition with the eastern manufacturers, the contract for furnishing Claus Spreckles material for su-gar bags. This contract alone is sufficient to keep a large mill in almost constant opgar bags.

Forty or more poor families of Washington were made happy today, who otherwise would have had but little to make a merry Christmas over, by generous contributions from the Confederate Veterans Association. A large number of donations were received for distribution by that as-sociation in answer to a plea for charity's sociation in answer to a plea for charity's sake, and last evening over forty large sacks, containing each a large, fat turkey, sugar, coffee, tea, canned goods and groceries of various kinds, amounting to seventy-five or eighty pounds, were packed and sent out by express wagons early this mcrning to needy families, many of whom little knew when the bright morning sun arose what was in store for them. In addition cash subscriptions amounting to dition cash subscriptions amounting nearly \$100 were received, most of whi was put in fuel and a considerable lot good, warm clothing, which was, as far as possible, sent to those most needing it. By 10 o'clock there was little left, and many